



English Constitutional Monarchy



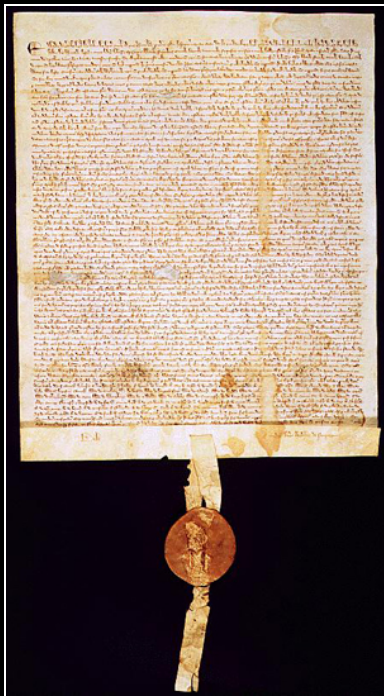
Background

(1215-1603)



Magna Carta, 1215

- a King John I forced to accept it.
- a A list of demands made by the nobility.
- a Created a **CONTRACT** between the king and the aristocracy.
- a Established principles which limited the power of the king:
 - Established basic legal rights.
 - The king must ask for popular consent for taxes.
 - Accused must have jury trial.



Model Parliament, 1295

- a King Edward I brought his military leaders and nobility together as a Parliament to ask their consent to new taxes.
- a Established the principle of parliamentary “**power of the purse.**”
- a A radical new idea for any monarch to ask for anything!





The Elizabethan “Bargain”

a Parliament:

- Would have the power to tax.
- Can debate and amend disputed bills.

a The Monarch:

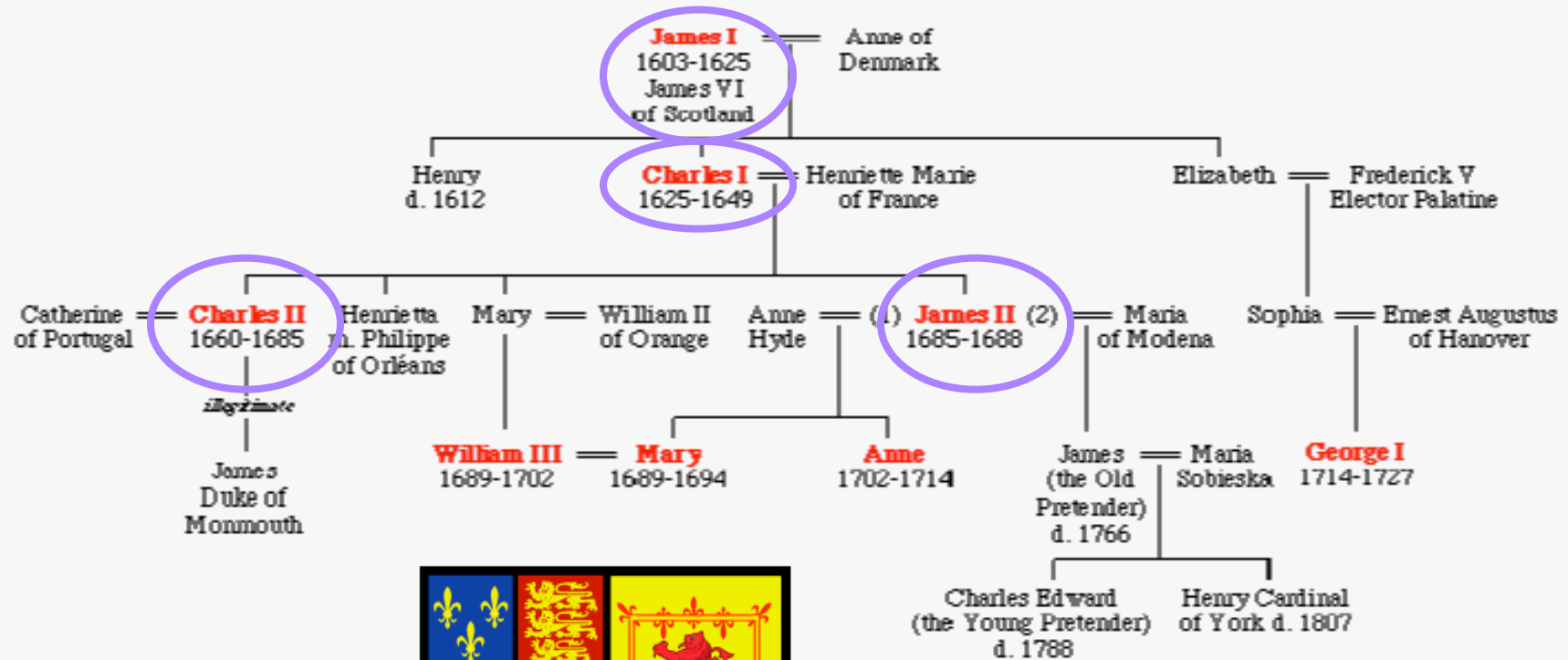
- Had the royal prerogative [right/choice] on foreign policy.



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The Early Stuarts (1603-1649)

The Stuart Monarchy

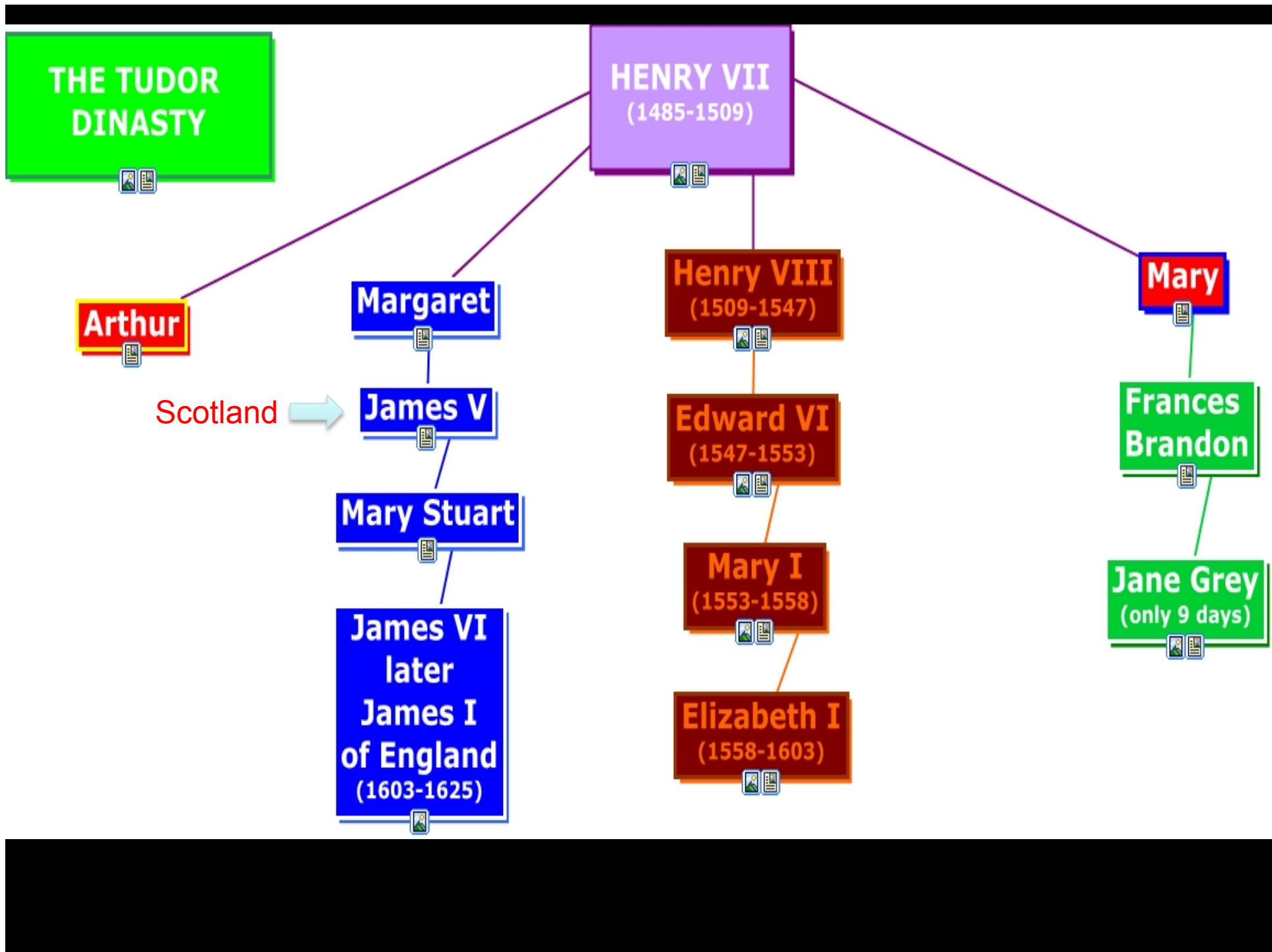


James I-(from Scotland) [r. 1603-1625]



James I's speech to the
House of Commons about
Parliament:

*I am surprised that my
ancestors should ever be
permitted such an
institution to come into
existence. I am a stranger,
and found it here when I
arrived, so that I am
obliged to put up with what
I cannot get rid of!*



James I [r. 1603-1625]

- a Wanted absolute power.
- a He quickly alienated a **Parliament** grown accustomed under the Tudors to act on the premise that monarch and Parliament TOGETHER ruled England as a “**balance polity.**”



James I [r. 1603-1625]



- a He alienated the Puritans by his strong defense of the Anglican Church.
- a Many of England's gentry [mostly rich landowners below the level of the nobility] became Puritans.
 - These Puritan gentry formed an important and large part of the House of Commons.
 - It was NOT WISE to alienate them!

Gunpowder Plot, 1605



Guy Fawkes

- a An attempt by some provincial Catholics to kill King James I and most of the Protestant aristocracy.
- a Planned to blow up the House of Lords during the state opening of Parliament.



Executions of the Gunpowder Plotters

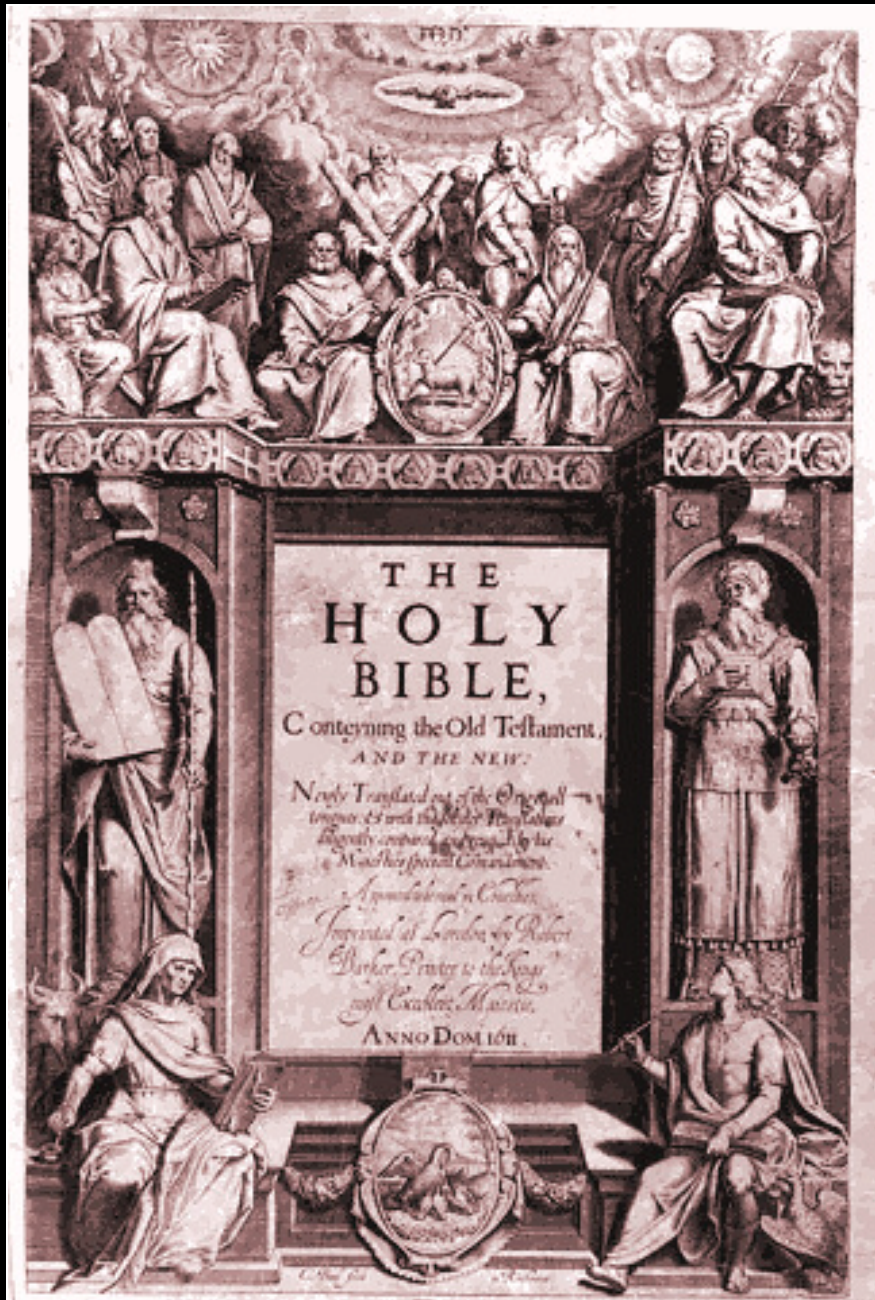


James I [r. 1603-1625]

a Problems he faced:

- Large royal debt.
- He wasn't English-
Scottish → he didn't understand English customs [esp. English law!]
- Believed in Divine Right of Kings.
- Pro-Catholic sympathies.
- Clashed with Parliament
 - ❖ He raised money without Parliament's consent!





King James Bible, 1611

Charles I [r. 1625-1649]

- a Pro-ceremonies and rituals.
- a Uniformity of church services imposed by a church court.
 - Anglican *Book of Common Prayer* for both England AND Scotland.
- a Seen as too pro-Catholic by the Puritans.

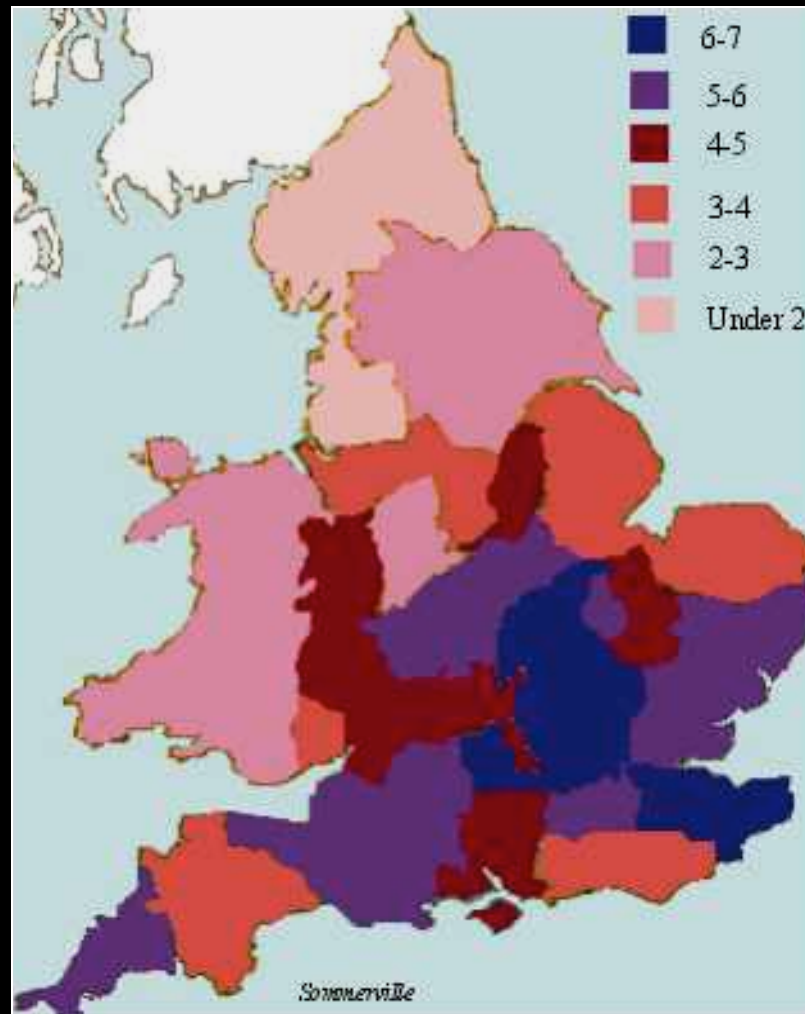


Charles I & Parliament



- a Constantly at war with Spain and France.
 - Always need £, but how to get it??
- a Usually Parliament would give Charles £ from taxes to fund his wars.
- a Periodically, Parliament would deny funds.
 - In return, Charles would dissolve Parliament and try to rule England without it → find funds in other ways.
 - ❖ Forced “loans,” selling aristocratic titles, etc.

How he raised money



- a Charged a medieval tax for coastal cities for defense.
- a Charles applied them to inland counties as well.
- a This got him around the need to call Parliament into session.

The Petition of Rights, 1628



- a In return for money to fund his wars, Charles I agreed:
- No imprisonment without due cause.
 - No taxation without Parliament's consent.
 - No putting soldiers in private homes.
 - No martial law during peacetime.
- a Charles signed it, and then ignored it, dissolving Parliament!

The “Short” Parliament

a “Short Parliament”

- No Parliament in 20 yrs.
- Rebellion in Scotland over Laud issues.
- Charles need £ → war with France.

a Calls Parliament into session in 1640

- MPs demand more protection of property.
- Charles dismisses them after 3 weeks.



*Charles I by Van Dyck
(1633)*

The “Long” Parliament



- a In session from 1640 to 1660.
 - Parliament must be called in session at least once every 3 yrs.
 - Parliament can't be adjourned without its own consent!
- a Charles enters the House of Commons to end the session and arrest 5 MPs → unsuccessful
- a Charles heads north to form an army!

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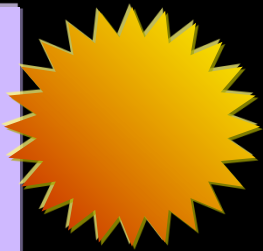
The Civil War

(1642-1649)

Civil War (1642-1649)



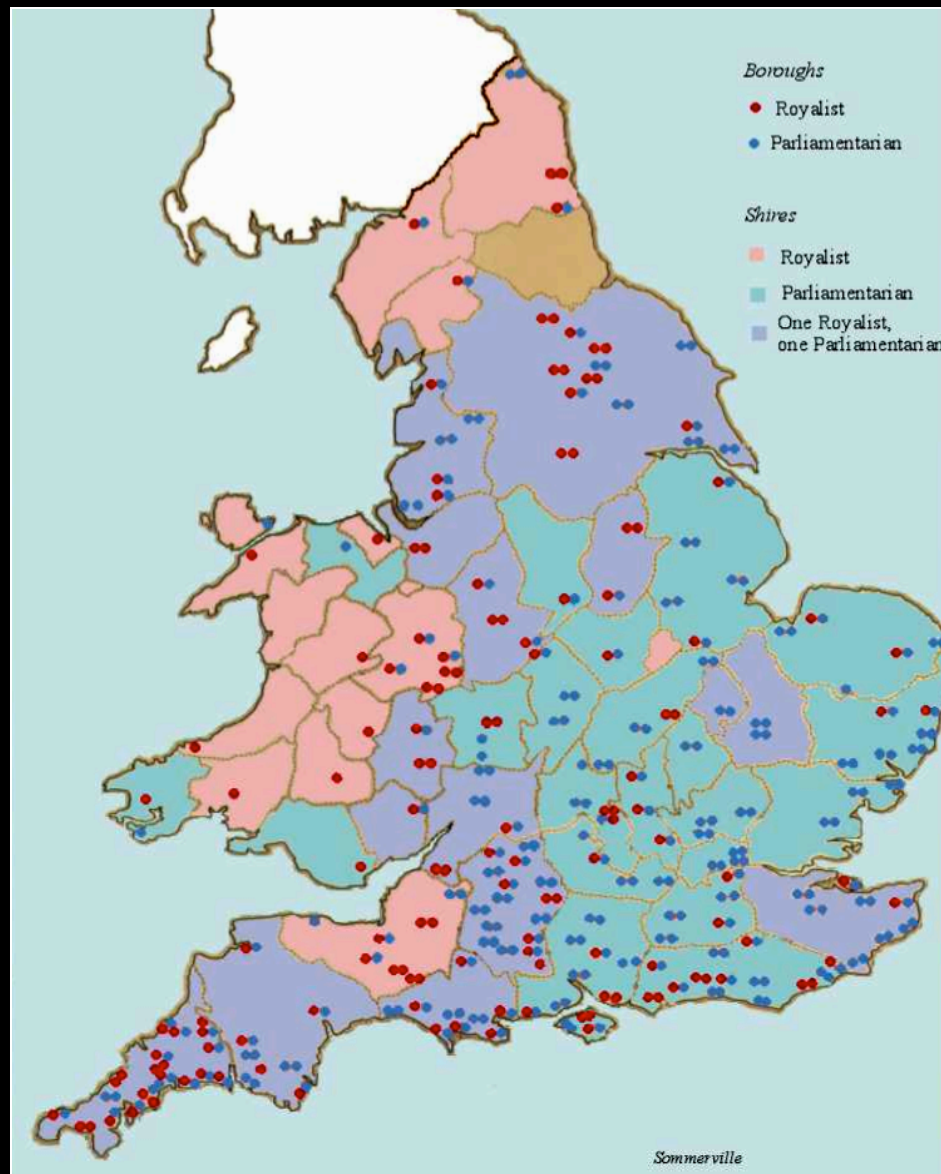
**Royalists
(Cavaliers)-** →
Supported Charles



← **Parliamentarians
(Roundheads)**
Supported Cromwell

- a House of Lords
- a N & W England
- a Aristocracy
- a Large landowners
- a Church officials
- a More rural

- † House of Commons
- † S & E England
- † Puritans
- † Merchants
- † Townspeople
- † More urban



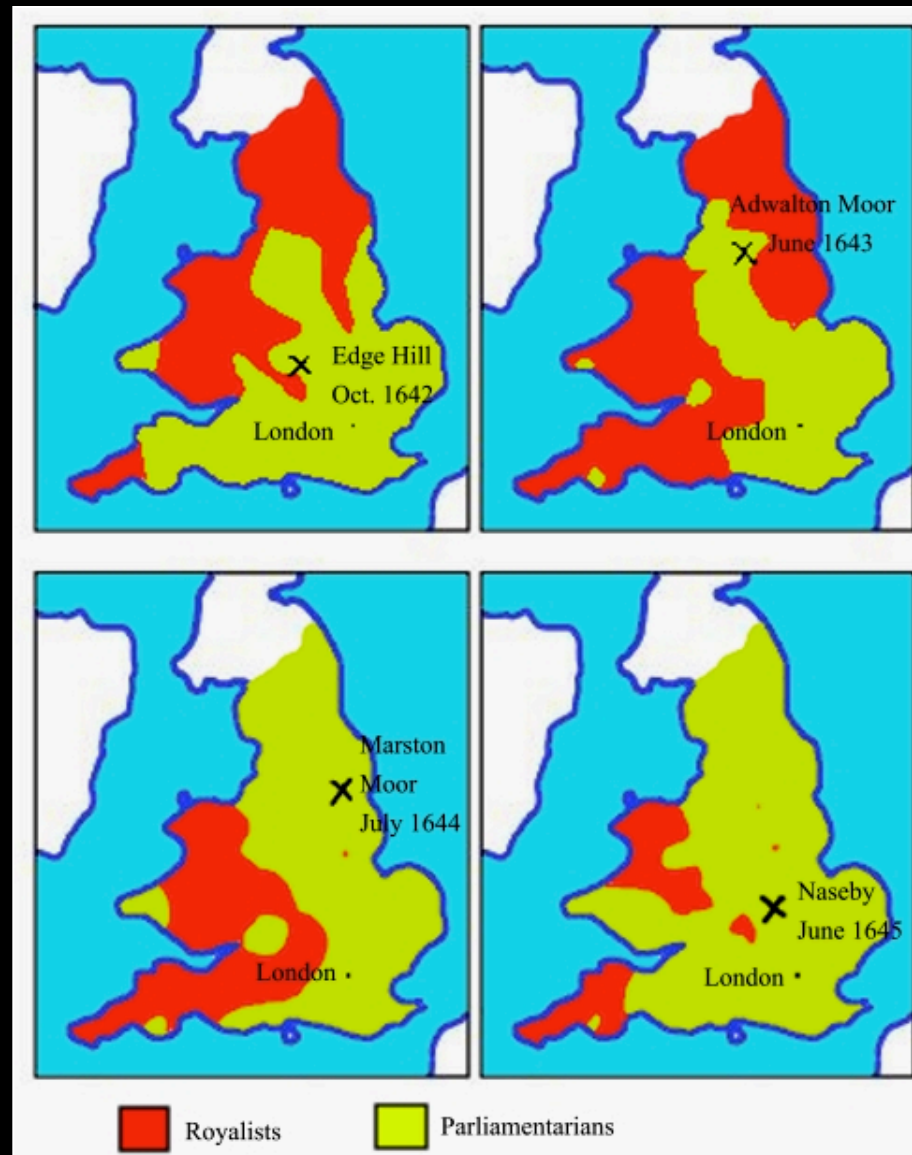
Allegiance of Members of the Long Parliament (1640-1660)

Oliver Cromwell [1599-1658]

- † Officer of the Parliamentary army [cavalry] → the **New Model Army**.
- † Led the army that defeated royal forces and now controlled the government.
- † *He wore...a plain cloth-suit, which seemed to have been made by a poor tailor; his shirt was plain, and not very clean; and I remember a speck or two of blood upon his collar...his face was swollen and red, his voice sharp and untunable, and his speech full of passion. [Sir Philip Warwick, a Royalist, 1640]*



The English Civil War: 1642-1645



The Battle of Naseby [re-enactment], 1645



- a Charles I is defeated at Marston Moor, Naseby, and Preston.
- a He is handed over to Parliament.



The Interregnum (1649-1660)

The “Interregnum” Period [1649-1660]



- † The Commonwealth (1649-1653)
- † The Protectorate (1654-1660)

The Coat of Arms & the Flag of the Commonwealth

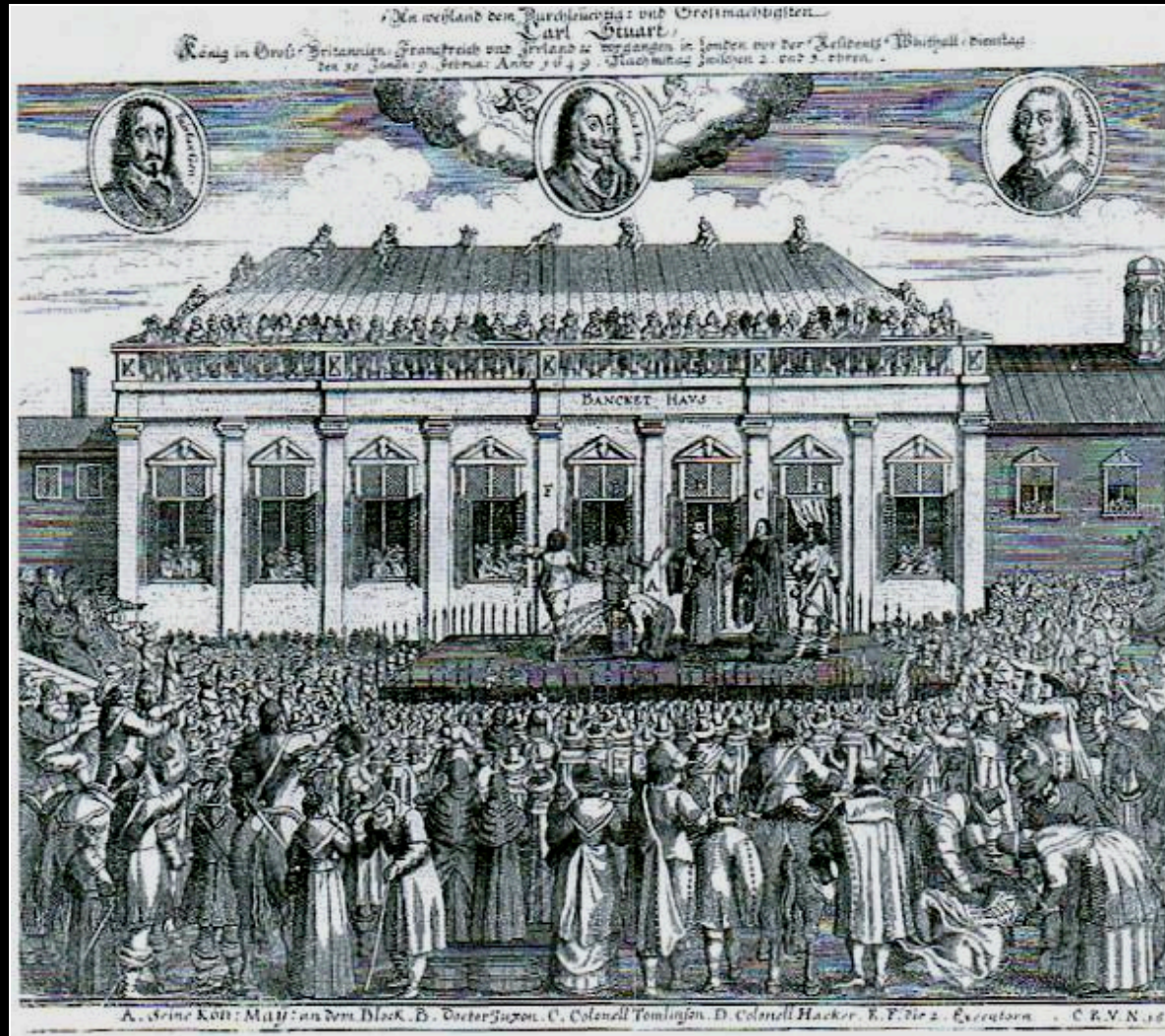


Pride's Purge, 1648



- † Cromwell purges the House of Commons of moderates [anyone who isn't anti-monarchy].
- † The results is the "Rump" Parliament.

Regicide → Beheading of Charles I,



† The vote by the Rump Parliament was 68-67.

The Puritan Commonwealth

[1649-1653]



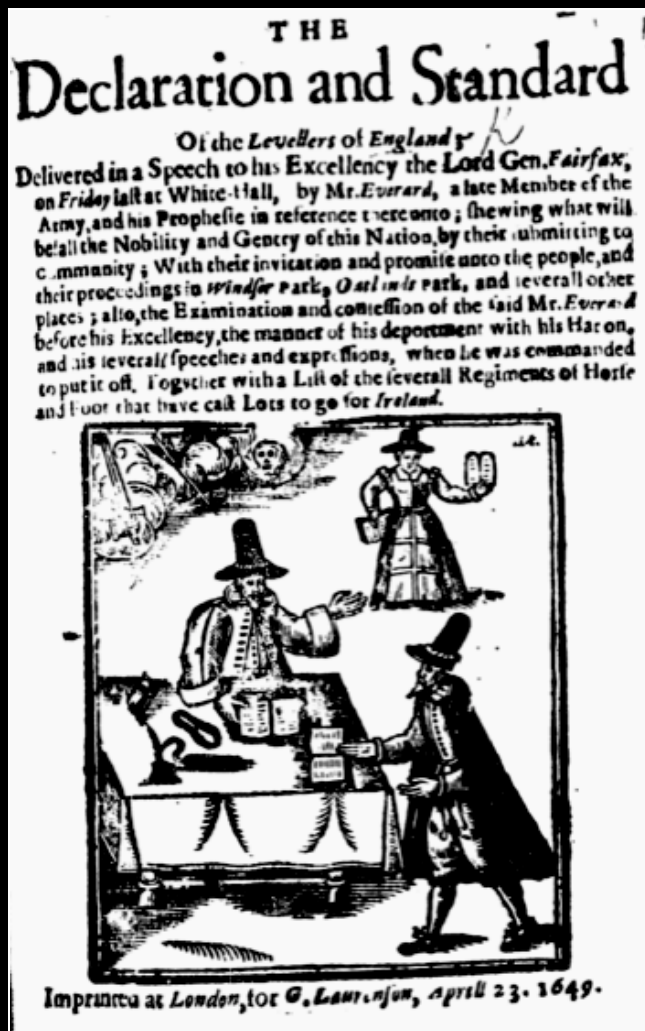
† Cromwell rules with the Rump Parliament.

† Constitutional Republic

- Created a constitution → *Instrument of Government*
- An executive [Cromwell]
- A Council of State → annually elected the committee of Parliament.
- No monarch.

† Europe is appalled → other nations don't recognize it.

Rebels within a Rebellion: Levellers



† John Lilburne was their leader.

† One of the first libertarians in the world.

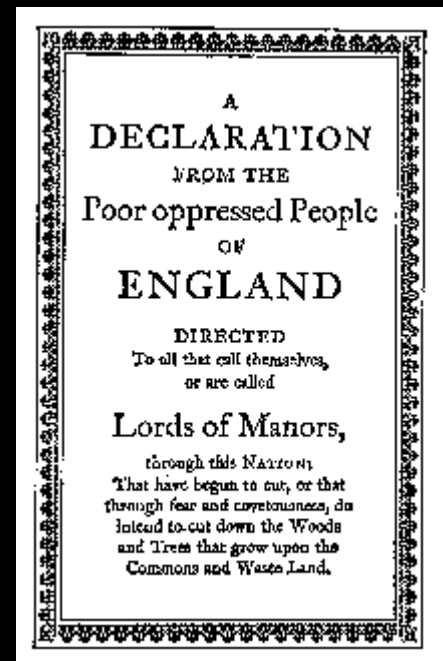
† *The Agreement of the People* was their political manifesto.

- Abolish corruption within the Parliament & judicial process.
- Toleration of religious differences.
- Laws written in the vernacular.
- Universal suffrage as a “natural right.”



Rebels within a Rebellion: Diggers

- † Agrarian “communists” led by Gerrard Winstanley and William Everard → seen as the “true Levellers.”
- † With Charles I gone, they felt that land should now be distributed to the poor.
- † Food prices had reached record highs in the 1640s.
- † They alarmed the Commonwealth government and angered the local landowners who wanted to claim confiscated aristocratic lands for themselves.



Cromwell Dissolves the “Rump” Parliament in 1653



The Protectorate [1653-1660]

- † Cromwell tears up the ineffective Constitution.
- † Dismisses the Rump Parliament and rules with the support of the military.
 - Declares martial law.
 - Military dictator.
- † Religious tolerance for all [esp. for Jews], **except for Catholics.**
- † Crushes a rebellion in Scotland.
- † Crushes a rebellion among the Catholics of Ireland → kills 40% of all ethnic Irish!





Ulster Plantation Established Under King James I

THE PALE (area of English control)

- English Pale, c. 1515
- Expansion of the Pale during the 16th and early 17th century

PLANTATIONS (areas of English colonization)

- Plantations established under Mary I
- Plantations established under Elizabeth I

- Plantations established under James I
- Exceptional native settlements
- Unplanted areas
- Scots immigrants 1550-1605

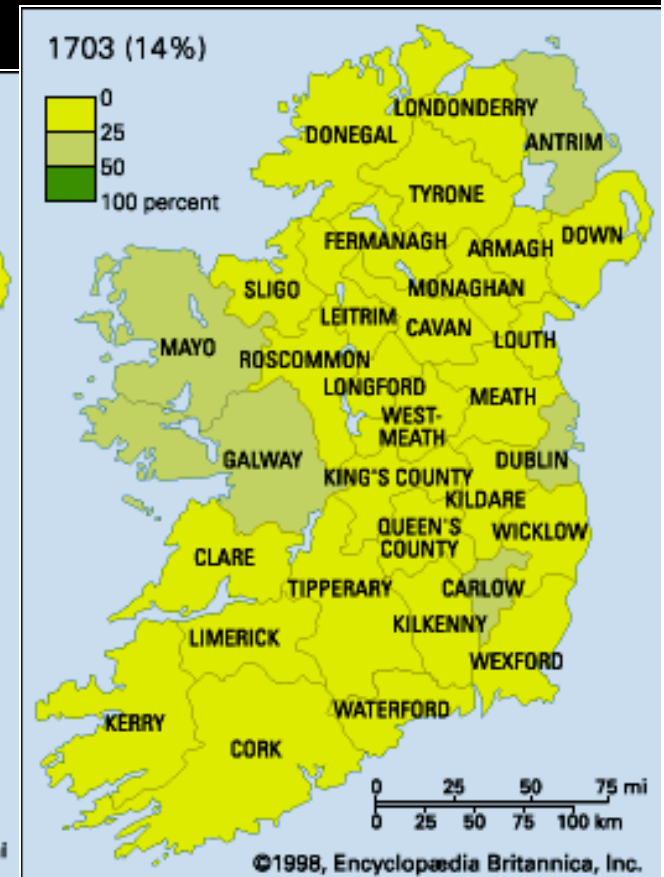
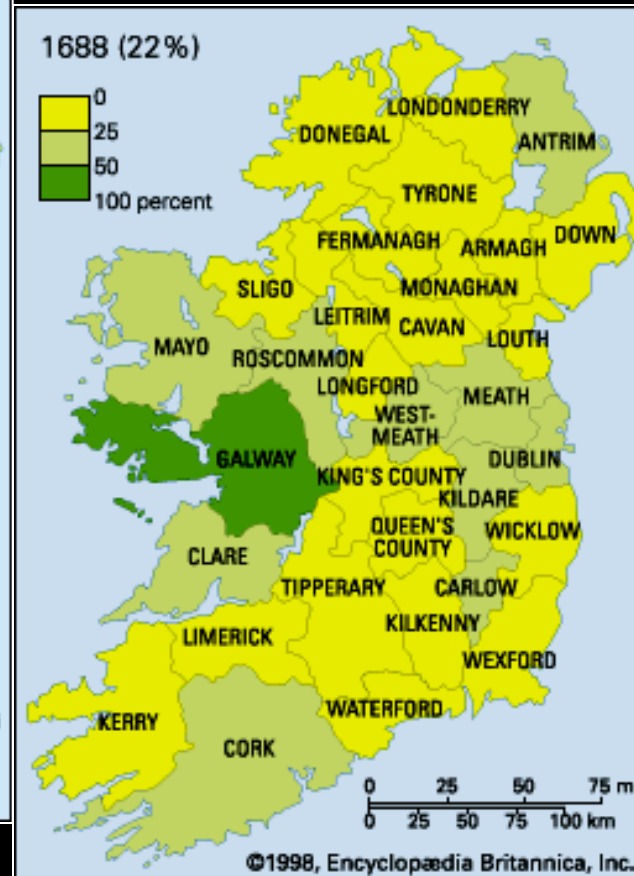
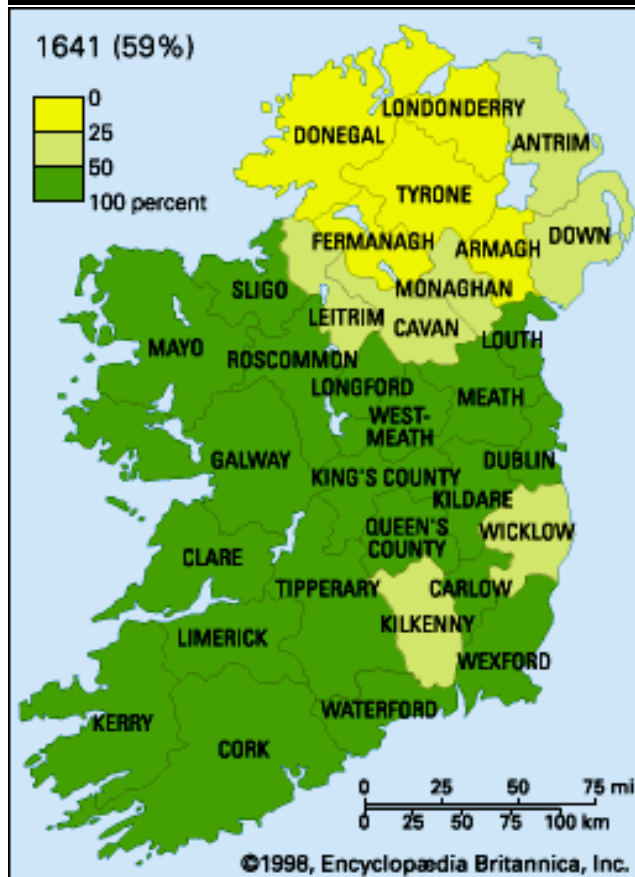
TOWNS

- Pre-plantation-era towns
- "New towns" of the plantation era

Ulster Plantation: 1609-1660- Protestants sent to live in Ireland



% Of Land Owned by Catholics in Ireland [in green]



Cromwell—Lord Protector or King??



- † England longs for an end to martial law!
- † Cromwell dies in 1658 and his son, Richard, takes over, but is weak and lasts for only two years.



The Restoration (1660-1688)

Parliament could no more exist without the Crown than the Crown without Parliament. This was the most important lesson of the English Civil War!

King Charles II [r. 1660-1685]

- a Had charm, poise, & political skills [unlike his father!].
- a Restored the theaters and reopened the pubs and brothels closed during the Restoration.
- a Favored religious toleration.
- a Had secret Catholic sympathies.
- a Realized that he could not repeat the mistakes his father had made.



King Charles II [r. 1660-1685]

a 1661 → “Cavalier” Parliament [filled with Royalists]

- Disbanded the Puritan army.
- Pardoned most Puritan rebels.
- Restored the authority of the Church of England.
- All clergy & church officials had to conform to the *Anglican Book of Common Prayer*.
- It forbade “non-conformists” to worship publicly, teach their faith, or attend English universities.

Great London Plague, 1665



Great London Fire, 1666



King Charles II [r. 1660-1685]

a 1673 → Test Act

- Parliament excluded all but **Anglicans** from civilian and military positions.
[to the Anglican gentry, the Puritans were considered “radicals” and the Catholics were seen as “traitors!”]

a 1679 → Habeas Corpus Act

- Any unjustly imprisoned persons could obtain a writ of *habeas corpus* compelling the govt. to explain why he had lost his liberty.

Charles II's Foreign Policy

1665 - 1667: Second Anglo-Dutch War



- a To Charles II, Louis XIV is an ideal ally against the Dutch.
- a 1670 → Treaty of Dover

King James II [r. 1685-1688]



- a Was a bigoted convert to Catholicism without any of Charles II's shrewdness or ability to compromise.
- a Alienated even the Tories.
- a Provoked the revolution that Charles II had succeeded in avoiding!

King James II [r. 1685-1688]

- a Introduced Catholics into the High Command of both the army and navy.
- a Camped a standing army a few miles outside of London.
- a Surrounded himself with Catholic advisors & attacked Anglican control of the universities.
- a Claimed the power to suspend or dispense with Acts of Parliament.





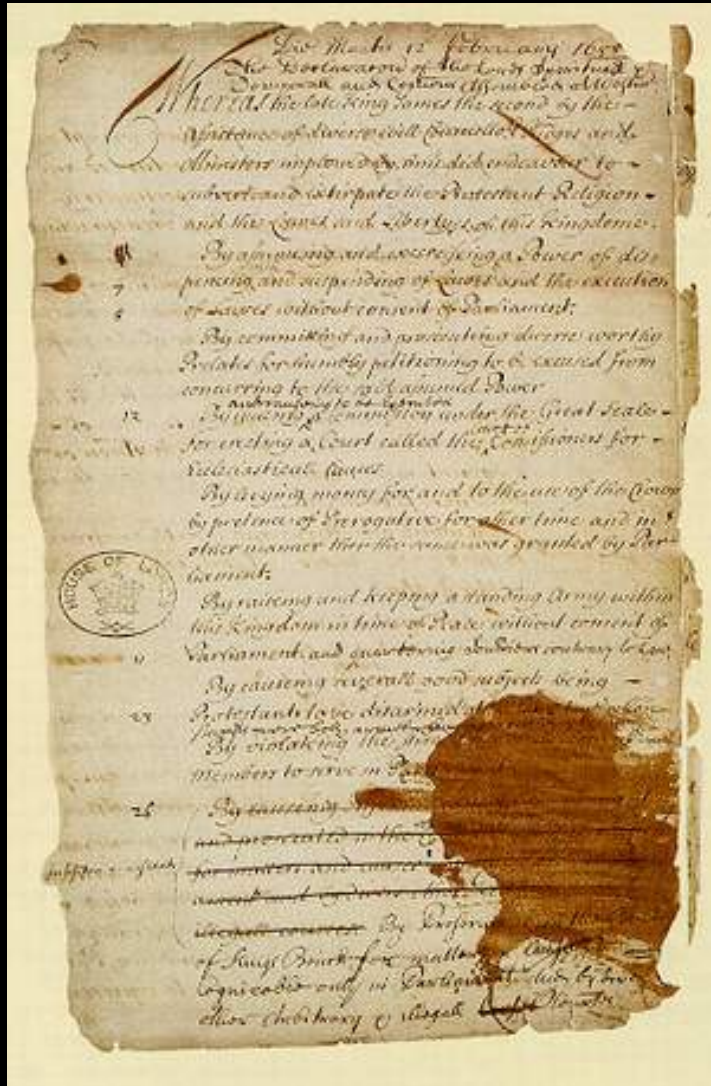
The Glorious Revolution 1688

The “Glorious” Revolution: 1688

- a Whig & Tory leaders offered the throne jointly to James II's daughter Mary [raised a Protestant] & her husband, William of Orange (Netherlands)
- He was a vigorous enemy of Louis XIV.
 - He was seen as a champion of the Protestant cause.



English Bill of Rights [1689]



- a It settled all of the major issues between King & Parliament.
- a It served as a model for the U. S. Bill of Rights.
- a It also formed a base for the steady expansion of civil liberties in the 18^c and early 19^c in England.

English Bill of Rights [1689]

a Main provisions:

1. The King could not suspend the operation of laws.
2. The King could not interfere with the ordinary course of justice.
3. No taxes levied or standard army maintained in peacetime without Parliament's consent.
4. Freedom of speech in Parliament.
5. Sessions of Parliament would be held frequently.
6. Subjects had the right of bail, petition, and freedom from excessive fines and cruel and unusual punishment.
7. The monarch must be a Protestant.
8. Freedom from arbitrary arrest.
9. Censorship of the press was dropped.
10. Religious toleration.



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